

Personal memo from  
JOSHUA LEDERBERG

Elie Wiesel

Nov 198

On claims of memory

Dear Elie -

I hope you enjoyed the  
Fest in Boston.

In fact I was briefly in  
Israel; but I thought of you.

Happy Birthday

Joshua.

SA 1150  
Kulman.

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X. 049 ✓  
11/2/98

we may forgive, but have no way to forget.

**JOSHUA LEDERBERG**  
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# SCIENCES

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## THINGS PAST



The biological imperfection of man, at the present state of his evolution, has been discussed at great length. Our critics unfairly neglect the other side of the equation: the complexity of the problems we face. Man is the only intelligent creature on this planet; as soon as his rational functions evolved to the point that culture was possible, he was bound to biosphere to the very margins of possibility, neither always comfortable nor assuredly dur-

ess against similar margins whatever improvements. link of one function we lack by contrast to namely INNOCENCE. No complex program diate outcome of its prior design. However, be perfected ("debugged") by repetitive trial being subject to erasure so that the system standard condition. This stabilizes the prob- ce solved. The human condition suffers from d our guilt are cumulative; we may assuage,

**JOSHUA LEDERBERG**